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Saturday
April 5, 1952

Henri Bonnet came in this morning with Jean Daridan. We discussed the Tunisian matter. I told him [redacted] the U.S. decision to abstain from a vote to inscribe the item on the UN Agenda had been arrived at on the supposition that present negotiations between the French and Tunisian Governments would soon reach a mutually satisfactory conclusion. However, if that did not prove to be the case, our action in this instance must not be considered a precedent for any future one. There were a great many other points which I raised with him, covered by a telegram [redacted] we dispatched to Paris today.

Bill Donovan came to see me about the World Commerce Corporation's proposed deal with the Czechoslovakian Government. World Commerce has offered to buy the impounded Czech steel mill for $10 million and erect it in Western Germany. This money would be made available to the foreign government through a Swiss bank, and in connection with it Oatis would be released. I told Bill [redacted] the Department had decided against [redacted] the proposition, although we would be interested in a deal totally unconnected with the question of the release of Oatis, provided [redacted] the dollar payment were placed in a blocked account, which would later be considered in connection with our claims against the Czech Government on account of the nationalization of American properties and other indebtedness of the Czech Government to our own citizens.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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